



The Town of Fenwick Island

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AMBULANCE SERVICE POLICY

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The Town of Fenwick Island, through its government, is vested with powers necessary for the protection and preservation of public health, safety and welfare (Town Charter, Section 25 "General Powers"). In 2007, the Town was notified that ambulance service provided to this area by the Millville Volunteer Fire Company would be terminated. A partnership between the Town of Fenwick Island, South Bethany, Bethany Beach and Sea Colony was formed. This partnership contracted with the Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Company to provide ambulance service to business and property owners in their respective jurisdictions.

Subscribers to this service are the legal owners of any property in this service district. If there are multiple owners of the property, each owner is a subscriber. This status is effective whether the subscriber is on that property or elsewhere in the district. Renters and visitors of subscriber homes are treated as subscribers. Employees of business subscribers are covered, as well. Business invitees and guests of hotels are not, however.

The Town of Fenwick Island assesses each parcel of property or sub-divided parcel, as is the case with condominiums and merchants. This assessment for ambulance service is currently \$33 per year. The Finances of the service company are monitored by a committee representing the four "towns". The fee for this service may increase over time, but the assessment will reflect a share of each town's responsibility only. This fee is included with your annual property tax and comprehensive refuse fee.

Both subscribers and non-subscribers will be rendered ambulance service when needed. Subscribers, though, will not be billed for any amount greater than that which is covered by their medical or other insurance.

The Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Company operates the ambulance service as an entity that is separate from the fire and emergency rescue service. Your tax-deductible contributions to the fire company are both appreciated and essential to their continued operation.

Each year, from early May through late June, the Town of Fenwick Island holds budget meetings to prepare for the new fiscal year. These meetings are open to the public. The most current information about the ambulance service and upcoming assessment will be made available at that time. The Council reviews and approves the budget at their regularly scheduled monthly Council meeting. Meeting minutes and the budget are posted on the Town web site (www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov).